AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

Entered as second-class matter September 20, 1912, at the Post Office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of August 24, 1912.
Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Sec. 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized July 11, 1918.

WHOLE NO. 1172 | WILLIAM GREEN, President | WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1933 | FRANK MORRISON, Secretary | VOL. 23, NO. 30

The people never give up their liberties but under some delusion.—Edmund Burke.

Gompers Memorial Dedication Will Be Major Event of AFL Convention; Roosevelt Will Deliver Address

Monument in the Nation's Capital, Built By Voluntary Offerings of the Workers, Is Lasting Tribute to the Great Trade Unionist and Patriot Who Was Head of the American Federation of Labor for Forty Years, and Who Eternally Kept the Faith in the Fight for Justice, Liberty, Children and the Home.

Washington.—The dedication of the beautiful and impressive memorial to the late Samuel Gompers will be the outstanding event of the annual convention of the American Federation of Labor opening here on October 2, declared William Green, president of the Federation, in a statement describing the memorial, its genesis, and as much as possible of the program for dedication.

Meanwhile workmen, in day and night shifts, continued preparation of the stands surrounding the site for the use of a throng which undoubtedly will fill the grounds surrounding the monument beyond capacity.

Gompers the Great American

"We expect a convention of record-breaking proportions," Mr. Green said, "and issues of tremendous importance will come before the delegates. We are in the midst of a vast re-making of the industrial life of our nation. But, however vital may be the issues with which we must grapple, we shall open our convention with the thought of paying loving tribute to our great late leader uppermost in our minds.

"In this we shall be joined by the public and by the nation, in the person of the President, for we shall unveil a monument memorial to a great American at whose passing the nation bowed its head in grief and whose body was carried to its last resting place by the army, a branch of its armed service."

Labor's memorial tribute to the late Samuel Gompers, given expression in bronze and marble, will be dedicated here on Saturday, October 7, to take its place in the Capital with other enduring memorials to the nation's great.

Roosevelt Will Deliver Address

The Gompers Memorial, the work of Robert Aitken, noted New York sculptor, stands on a triangle at Tenth Street and Massachusetts Avenue N. W., a block from the American Federation of Labor Building, from which Gompers led the hosts of labor in the last years of his life.

The A. F. of L. Building, which was dedicated in 1916 with a speech by Woodrow Wilson, contains a memorial room to Gompers, with his desk and chair, just as he left them to go on the journey from which he did not return. The memorial to the famous labor leader, head of the A. F. of L. for 40 years, will be dedicated with an address by another President, Franklin D. Roosevelt, whose admirers believe will go down in history with Woodrow Wilson and other outstanding Chief Executives of the United States.

Memorial Committee

The Gompers Memorial had its genesis at a special meeting of the A. F. of L. Executive Council, held in New York City on December 19, 1924, the day following the funeral of Mr. Gompers, who died at San Antonio, Texas, on December 13, after attending the inauguration of President Calles of Mexico a few days previous. The meeting, which named William Green president of the American Federation of Labor, authorized Mr. Green to appoint a Samuel Gompers Memorial Committee. He named the following members: Frank Morrison, Frank Duffy, Daniel J. Tobin, Matthew Woll and James Wilson.

Planning the Monument

At its first meeting, the memorial committee asked President Green to become a member and he agreed to serve. The committee, which planned the memorial, raised the funds for it and had charge of the other arrangements, has the same personnel now as when formed, with the exception that T. A. Rickert succeeded Mr. Tobin, resigned.

In order to obtain a representative expression of opinion from organized labor as to the kind of memorial desired, the presidents and secretaries of international and national unions were asked to serve as an advisory committee and take part in an advisory conference held in Washington.

The conference endorsed plans proposed by the memorial committee and suggested the plot in front of the A. F. of L. Building as the site for the memorial. It was found impracticable to use this site and Tenth Street and Massachusetts Avenue was finally selected, after the Fine Arts Commission had been consulted.

Congress Provides Site

Congress authorized the erection of the memorial in 1928 and the design was approved by the Fine Arts Commission. By direction of the 1928 convention of the A. F. of L. an appeal for funds was issued on December 26, 1928. International and national unions and many thousands of individual trade unionists and others contributed and more than $100,000 was raised.

Near Edmund Burke's Statue

The Gompers Memorial, facing Massachusetts Avenue, is a short distance from the statue of Edmund Burke, famous orator and friend of American independence during the Revolution. Gompers, in bronze, is depicted seated; above him the altar of justice. Clasping hands across the altar are marble figures symbolic of labor. Behind them stand figures of Justice and Liberty. A mother holding her child symbolizes the protection of the home and a child with bowed head symbolizes the appeal of the child for protection from industrial exploitation.

Built by Voluntary Offerings

"The Gompers Memorial," said President Green, "is designed as a lasting memorial to the work of the beloved leader of labor in the interest of justice, liberty, the home and children. It will remind generations to come of the work of Gompers, who was one of the great builders of this nation, during both peace and war.

"The memorial, built with the voluntary offerings of thousands of trade unionists, is a monument to the principle of voluntary action to which Gompers contributed so much and which has come to be recognized in democratic countries as the soundest basis for progress.

He Kept the Faith

"This principle is now recognized in the National Industrial Recovery Act, under which wage earners are given the right to organize freely and voluntarily without restraint or interference. It is the principle to which Mr. Gompers gave allegiance during his long life of service to humanity. If alive today, I am sure he would hail the Recovery Act as a great forward step in justice and civilization.

"Samuel Gompers kept the faith and as the hosts of labor dedicate the memorial, they will re-dedicate themselves to the work to which he devoted his life. That work was to fight unceasingly and wholeheartedly for justice and the advancement of the welfare of the masses of the people."

Thousands of Puerto Rican Sugar Workers Thrown Into Idle Army by American Bankers

San Juan, Puerto Rico.—Some 4,000 sugar cane workers were given the leisure to contemplate the blessings conferred upon them by American capitalists, as a result of the decision of the Circuit Court of Appeals at Boston upholding the claims of the National City Bank to the entire crop proceeds, a portion of which Albert E. Lee, receiver for the United Porto Rico Sugar Co., had proposed to use in paying the workers, under instructions from the United States District Court here. The decision of the Boston Circuit Court forced the closing of the company's plant and threw the 4,000 employes into the jobless army without their wages being paid.

More than 10,000 other workers and about 100,000 dependents shortly would be free to join in the paeans of praise, Mr. Lee informed District Judge Wells, unless the National City Bank relents or the appeal of other creditors from the Boston decision prevails. The greed of the National City Bank in pressing now its claim for $4,500,000 will seriously affect the value of the property unless provision for its preservation is made, reduce the 1934-35 crop and result in a net loss of $1,200,000 to the creditors, the receiver's petition stated.

HOPKINS FIXES MEDICAL AID RULES FOR JOBLESS

Recognition of Family-Physician Relationship Is Essence of Relief Administrator's Policy

Washington. — Rules governing the expenditure of Federal funds for medical, nursing and dental care of sick and destitute unemployed persons who are "on relief" were announced by Harry L. Hopkins, Federal emergency relief administrator.

The regulations seek to improve conditions of service for the unemployed, the professions and the relief officials in the localities under the immediate supervision of which the needy sick are cared for.

The use of Federal relief money for medical care is limited to service in the home or office call. Federal funds cannot be used to pay hospital bills or for treatment in nursing homes or clinics. Office service for ambulatory patients is permitted, on the understanding that it shall not supplant the services of clinics already provided in the community.

The essence of the Relief Administration's policy was declared to be the recognition of the traditional family and family-physician, physician-nurse and dentist-patient relationship in the authorization of medical nursing and emergency dental care of indigent persons in their homes, and agreement by the physician, nurse and dentist to "furnish the same type of service as would be rendered to a private patient, at a minimum consistent with good professional judgment, and an agreed rate which makes due allowance for conservation of relief funds."

"The common aim," Mr. Hopkins said, "should be the provision of good medical service at a low cost—to the mutual benefit of indigent patient, physician, nurse, dentist and taxpayer."

Missouri Congressman Hits Big Salary of Tobacco Head

Kansas City.—The salary of George Washington Hill, president of the low-wage American Tobacco Company, was criticized by Representative Joseph B. Shannon of Missouri in a speech denouncing "tremendous salaries." Referring to Hill, Representative Shannon said: "His name is a living contradiction. His salary and commission last year totaled $1,600,000—too much for any man—while others starve."

July Relief Total in Cities Drops 9 Per Cent Under June

Washington.—The Children's Bureau, Department of Labor, reported that relief expenditures from public and private funds were 9 per cent lower in July than in June of this year. The report was based on data from 120 cities and city areas.

The July relief expenditures totaled $34,157,843. This was 19 per cent less than the amount spent in March, when relief demands reached their peak, but it was far above the $20,901,016 expended by the reporting agencies in July of last year.

Public Backs Hosiery Strikers' Demand for Union Recognition

Hornell, N. Y.—Public sentiment strongly backed striking workers of the Merrill Hosiery Company in their demand for union recognition and union rates and conditions. A mass meeting in support of the workers was attended by 2,000 persons and sympathy for them was manifested in other ways. Wages in recent years went to very low levels. The whole town suffered from the lack of purchasing power the low wage condition created and is now rooting for a successful conclusion to the strikers' fight.

11,000,000 Jobless Hopelessly Seek Employment, Green Declares

Roosevelt's Program Found Work for 815,000 in August, But the Big Army of Idle Men and Women Still Beg in Vain for Those Who Own and Control Industry to Open the Factories and Permit the Toilers to Live by Their Labor—With 3,500,000 Families on Public Relief and the Number Growing Every Day, the Crisis in Unemployment and Destitution Will Come This Winter.

Washington.—Eleven million American working men and women are still vainly, helplessly and hopelessly seeking jobs from the owners of industry, according to the monthly report on unemployment by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor.

Although the impetus of the President's re-employment program is estimated to have put 815,000 jobless back to work in August, with continuing gains for September, the fact that the 12,204,000 unemployed in June only decreased to 11,001,000 in September indicates that the surface of the unemployment problem has merely been ruffled.

Pointing out that the resources of the 11,000,000 still jobless are completely exhausted and that the 3,500,000 families now supported by public relief is likely to increase to 4,500,000 during the coming Winter, Mr. Green declared that the greatest crisis in America's scourge of unemployment lies directly ahead.

"The President's re-employment program in its first month brought greater progress in employment than in any month since the depression," Mr. Green said.

"Reports of the Labor Department show that in the 17 industries covered by their figures, 750,0000 persons went back to work from July 15 to August 15, and when other industries are added to this total the Federation estimate shows that, in all, 815,000 men and women went back to work in the month of August. This reduces unemployment to 11,001,000, according to our preliminary estimate.

Trade Union Employment Increases

"Trade union reports for the first part of September indicate that the re-employment program is still going forward. They show a larger employment gain in September than in August, the largest gain in fact for any month since March, 1933, except June. In September 22.6 per cent of the membership were out of work, compared with 23.7 per cent in August, 24.1 per cent in July and 26.6 per cent in March. The gains were chiefly in full-time work, for part-time work did not increase. Of our 24 cities, 20 reported a gain in employment. Only one of the trade groups—theaters—reported an increase in unemployment, and there were substantial gains also in building, metal trades, manufacturing, service, street transportation, water transportation and railroads.

2,800,000 Jobs Restored

"Nevertheless, when one considers the 11,001,000 persons still out of work and looks ahead to winter months when more than a million will probably lose their jobs, progress in the conquest of unemployment seems slow indeed. But miracles do not happen even under the NRA, and the fact that more than 2,800,000 have gone back to work since March, when all industries are counted, is at least a beginning toward recovery.

"Unemployment has been reduced by 20 per cent since its peak in March. The largest gain was in factory employment where more than 1,500,000 went back to work; re-employment in other industries was: wholesale and retail trade, 300,000; building, 200,000; railroads, 100,000; farms, 100,000; service, 35,000; mines, 27,000; others, 500,000.

"This beginning of re-employment must not mislead us into thinking that the need for relief is over or that it is even decreasing. In spite of the return to work of 2,800,000 by August, the number of families on relief rolls in our principal cities in August was 85 to 90 per cent above August last year.

Relief Needs Grow

"The desperate condition of our unemployed families is cumulative. We are now feeling the results of four years of unemployment. If two or three million are better off by having jobs, eleven million are worse off from their long struggle for existence; their resources are exhausted, and hundreds are weekly applying to the public relief offices for the first time.

"Relief needs this winter will be greater than ever before. Three and a half million families were on the public relief rolls in August, and this number may increase to four and a half million before the winter is over. Care for those who are without resources is our first duty, and every American citizen with a spark of human sympathy will stand firmly behind National and State relief programs this Winter, even when they mean higher taxes."

Unemployment Estimates

Mr. Green's statement included an estimate of the total number of unemployed throughout the United States each month during 1930, 1931, 1932 and 1933.

From 3,216,000 out of work in January, 1930, the number rose to 5,541,000 in December. In January, 1931, there were 7,160,000 jobless, the number jumping to 8,908,000 in December. The year 1932 started off with 10,197,000 pounding the pavements looking for jobs, the number increasing to 12,124,000 in December. In January, 1933, there were 13,100,000 out of work, the number increasing to 13,689,000 in March, the peak for all time, and falling to 11,001,000 in September.

Trade Union Unemployment

The following statistics on the percentage of unemployment in trade union membership were also given: January, 1930, 12.5; December, 16.6. January, 1931, 19.8; December, 21.8. January, 1932, 23.1; December, 25.4. January, 1933, 25.8; September, 22.6 (estimated).

MENACE TO RECOVERY PLAN SEEN IN SPEED-UP SYSTEM

Sioux City, Iowa.—The fear that employers will inaugurate a well-defined scheme unduly to speed up the workers and yet comply with the maximum hours and minimum wage provisions of the fair competition codes issued by the President of the United States is expressed by Harold N. Sturgeon, assistant editor of the Unionist and Public Forum, the official organ of the Sioux City Trades and Labor Assembly, in an editorial "Only the union can stop this."

Pointing out that in the past employers have done this to beat the intent of the law when they were forced to pay more for a shorter work week in order to "gain for owners of industry the maximum profits," he stresses the fact that the speed-up system is a scheme "whereby the workers must do the work that ordinarily would take more help."

He adds: "The worker may have his hours shortened. He may receive more money and yet do more work for that money in those hours than he did before. So far as the law is concerned there is no protection to the worker from this system. Only through organization can he have a voice in putting a stop to such tactics. And if the organization is strong enough it can incorporate in the code provisions to prohibit speed-up systems that, if carried to their logical results, will mean the over-taxing of human endurance."

ACTORS SECURE BENEFITS UNDER NRA THEATER CODE

New York.—Equity, the official publication of Equity Actors and Chorus Associations, waxes enthusiastic over the gains members obtained in the Legitimate Theater code under the NRA. Some of the agreements embodied in the code will remedy sore spots that have afflicted the theater for years, according to the editorial, which adds:

"To have obtained the elimination of any one of them in the past would have seemed an achievement to Equity. Yet here they are, all in the code, all promised at once. Why shouldn't Equity be enthusiastic to see this fruition of years of toil on its part?"

Among advantages gained are promises not to release plays for motion pictures until they have completed their runs on the legitimate stage; the pledge of the managers to end ticket scalping; a minimum wage, and abolishment of unnecessary and inhuman rehearsal periods.

Equity sees hope for enforcement of these agreements in the police powers, under the Recovery Act, of the Legitimate Theater Committee, upon which both the Actors Equity and the Chorus Equity are represented.

British Fraternal Delegates To A. F. of L. Convention Sail

Southampton, England.—J. Rowan, general secretary of the Electrical Trades Union, and J. Hall, financial secretary of the Yorkshire Miners' Union, fraternal delegates from the British Trades Union Congress, sailed from Southampton on September 20 for the American Federation of Labor convention in Washington. They will return with a formal report on the National Industrial Recovery Act.

ST. PAUL FIREMEN WIN COST-OF-LIVING PAY SUIT

St. Paul, Minn.—Members of Local No. 21, International Association of Fire Fighters, have won a hotly-contested suit in District Court here to compel the city to live up to a wage contract with its employes.

F. L. Lundstrum, secretary of the local, explains that in 1922 the city council passed an ordinance providing that pay of classified service employes should be computed on the living cost base established by the June survey of the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics. During the boom years, when commodity prices soared, the firemen's wages lagged.

So when the city council in 1932, early in the depression, had up an ordinance cutting city wages, the firemen tried unsuccessfully to obtain an exemption. When many of them thought it a lost cause, the majority decided otherwise and placed the matter in the hands of a law firm, the local paying its retainer, the balance of their fee to be paid by beneficiaries on a contingent basis.

As a result of the court victory, the city has budgeted $57,000 as first installment on a total of approximately $240,000 the firemen will receive.

BANK DEPOSIT GUARANTEE BOARD IS ESTABLISHED

Washington. — Organization of the board of the Federal Insurance Corporation, which will set up a fund to guarantee deposits of banks which can qualify for admission, took place here. Walter J. Cummings of Chicago, as chairman, and E. G. Bennett of Utah and J. F. T. O'Connor, Controller of the Currency, were sworn into office.

The first step will be the preparation of regulations, following which there will be a nation-wide examination of banks to determine their eligibility.

The board issued the following statement: "The insurance deposit feature of the Banking Act of 1933 provides that the assets of the applying bank shall be adequate to enable it to meet all of its liabilities to depositors and other creditors."

The Federal law for the guarantee of bank deposits was enacted by the last session of Congress. It was supported by the American Federation of Labor as a necessary measure to protect millions of depositors from losing their savings through the rascality and inefficiency of the bankers.

Chinese Cotton Mill Strike Ended by Arrest of Leaders

Tientsin, China.—The Western method of using government violence to end strikes was used here to discipline 5,000 employes of the Yu Yuan Cotton Mill Company, a joint Chino-Chinese concern, who walked out in protest over the work conditions imposed by the cotton capitalists.

Two days after the walkout General Yu Hsueh-chung, chairman of the Hopei Provincial Government, arrested 70 mill hands whom mill officials charged with "instigating" the employes to strike.

With such a large number of their leaders removed and more arrests threatened, the employes gave up the struggle and returned to work without amelioration of the oppressive conditions which inspired the protest.

RORTY ATTACKS WAGE PRINCIPLE IN CODES

Defeatist Statistician Assails Roosevelt's Minimum Wage Plan and Collective Bargaining—Says the President Is Headed for a "Semi-Socialistic Economic System."

New York.—M. C. Rorty, past president of the American Statistical Society, engineer, economist, and an official of one or more telephone companies since 1899, makes a vicious attack on President Roosevelt's recovery program in an article on "What Industry Thinks of Industrial Control" in the Iron Age, an outstanding trade organ of the iron and steel industry.

He is especially vindictive toward the minimum wage and wage increase policy which is the method set up in the President's re-employment program and in the fair competition codes developed under the National Industrial Recovery Act to increase mass purchasing power and thus provide employment for millions of the unemployed workers.

Truth Is Suppressed!

He even accuses the Administration of attempting to suppress the truth, and succeeding, too, up to the point where the bold Mr. Rorty steps in and proclaims it fearlessly, thus:

"What is this truth, of which the mention is so rigorously tabooed? Briefly stated, it is that the whole concept of arbitrary wage fixing by legislative fiat or by collective bargaining, of minimum wages, and of fixing the compensation of labor by legislative fiat, is almost wholly fallacious in practice, as it is equally fallacious in theory."

It would be interesting to know just what nice distinction is in Mr. Rorty's mind when he differentiates between "wage fixing by legislative fiat" and "fixing the compensation of labor by legislative fiat." To the layman these adjacent phrases appear to have one and the same meaning, though it may be admitted that the latter has a fine sonarity somewhat lacking in the former.

Mr. Rorty should also explain how there may be "arbitrary" wage fixing by "collective bargaining." Even a first-year student in economics should know that trade union collective bargaining is the very opposite of arbitrary procedure. In fact, Mr. Rorty's "arbitrary bargaining" is an impossibility.

In the company union corporations of the iron and steel industry, to which Iron Age especially caters, the corporation officials have pretty generally fixed wages arbitrarily by the ipse dixit of an executive order. But none of this arbitrary action is found in collective bargaining.

Commodity Theory of Labor

Having denounced minimum wages fixed by "collective bargaining" and "legislative fiat" in the President's plan, Mr. Rorty reverts to the old commodity theory of human labor and declares that neither organized economic strength nor all the laws that Congress may pass can prevent wages from being fixed by the "laws of supply and demand."

He sponsors the outworn philosophy of the defeatists that "no legislative fiats can prevent the rewards of labor from continuing to be a substantially fixed and only slowly changing fraction of commodity prices."

One would think that before condemning minimum wages by "legislative fiat" Mr. Rorty would at least give the new system a few months to show what it can do. Not so. It just won't work. Listen to this patronizing sympathy for President Roosevelt and the doleful prediction of failure:

"The intent has been good, but in the process of doing the necessary things we have opened up a Pandora's box of economic fallacies, which may plague us for a generation."

And what is Roosevelt headed for? Nothing less than "the adoption of a patchwork economic ox-cart of a semi-socialistic economic system," whatever that blotch of epithets and hyphens may mean.

Roosevelt's "Economic Fallacies"

Mr. Rorty believes that the business men making up the administrative staff of the National Recovery Administration reflect his outworn views and would like to apply them, but he moans that in "a pervading atmosphere of economic fallacies," which, he alleges, are part of the Roosevelt recovery program, he is doubtful if they will be able to steer the Ship of State away from the reefs of "arbitrary" wages fixed by "arbitrary" collective bargaining and "legislative fiat" and prevent our 125,000,000 of people from dashing their lives out on his pipe dream of a "patchwork economic ox-cart."

In the meantime, reports from Washington say that minimum wage and maximum hour codes are rolling in so fast that General Johnson's Recovery Administration is compelled to speed up all along the line to insure their prompt finalization.

Poor Rorty! Like Saul of old, he persists in kicking against the pricks, even when all the forces of economic evolution are solidly arrayed against him.

MORRISON ASKS 40 HOURS FOR EDITORIAL WRITERS

Washington.—The 40-hour week in the daily newspaper code should be accorded to all editorial writers excepting those receiving $75 a week or more, Frank Morrison, secretary of the American Federation of Labor, told the National Recovery Administration in the hearing on the code.

Mr. Morrison also offered an additional amendment under which persons gathering, writing or editing news would receive a minimum weekly salary of not less than the wages paid to the highest class of skilled mechanics employed on the same newspaper, and that they observe the same hours of work as the skilled mechanics.

The provision of the code which drew Mr. Morrison's criticism is that which declares that professional employes, "within which class may be included reporters receiving in excess of $35 a week," shall not be covered by the code for the industry.

James Garvey, Rhode Island Labor Federation Chief, Dies

Providence, R. I.—James Garvey, president of the Rhode Island State Federation of Labor, died September 11 at Pascoag, R. I., after a long illness. Mr. Garvey was for many years prominently identified with the Granite Cutters' Union in New England. Gov. Green of Rhode Island, officers of the State Federation of Labor and many others were present at the funeral.

Green Urges German Goods Boycott As Reprisal Against Destruction Of Unions by Hitler's Barbarians

Labor Chief Declares Torture, Exile and Death Are Favorite Weapons Used by Nazis in Depriving German Working Men and Women of Every Vestige of Liberty—A. F. of L. Convention Is Expected to Take Militant Action on the Hitler-Hindenburg Monstrosity.

Washington.—A militant boycott of German commodities by the American labor movement was recommended by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, in a statement discussing the intolerable situation in Germany under the dictatorship of Chancellor Adolph Hitler and the possibility of the A. F. of L. convention, which convenes here the first week in October, taking emphatic action to place the Nazi monstrosity on Labor's "we-don't-patronize" list.

Mr. Green declared he had reliable reports from American observers who have visited Germany and who have brought back direct and indisputable evidence of torture and of the complete crushing of the German labor movement by Hitler's Nazi dictatorship. This evidence, he said, would undoubtedly be laid before the Federation's convention.

Asserting that the Hitlerites have used "cruel and uncivilized terrorism" against all those who oppose their dictatorship, and that the German labor movement has been destroyed and the long-recognized rights of the German working men and women ruthlessly trampled under foot by Hitler's "barbarians," Mr. Green expressed the belief that the delegates to the Federation's convention would unanimously place every product made in Germany on American Labor's blacklist and militantly enforce it until German goods manufactured under the liberty-destroying Hitler-Hindenburg regime, whose weapons against civilization are torture, exile and death, are absolutely barred from all territory which floats the Stars and Stripes as the emblem of the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

"Since Hitler seized power in Germany," Mr. Green said, "American labor, in common with labor elsewhere, has watched the Nazi movement with growing concern. Up to now, American labor has made no move to join officially in the boycott of German goods now under way by European trade unionists.

European Labor Approves Boycott

"However, many individual trade unionists have undoubtedly been refusing to buy German products, especially in the larger centers, where the boycott is apparently making progress. Indication of this was given recently by the statement of New York department stores that the demand for German-made goods had shown a marked falling off.

"But American labor may soon decide to join in the boycott movement, to which it has hitherto remained aloof. As the last conference of the International Federation of Trade Unions declared, in voting for a boycott policy, 'Extraordinary dangers created by the German Nazi regime call for extraordinary measures.' American labor may take the same view.

Terrorized by Torture and Death

"At a meeting in New York last spring, I protested, in behalf of labor, against the terrorism in Germany and especially against the persecution of the Jewish people. I directed attention to the friendly and fraternal relations between the German and American labor movements and said that American workers would challenge attempts in any nation to suppress freedom of speech and press.

"Since then, the terrorism in Germany has gone to wilder and wilder extremes and has resulted in open war on the trade union movement and the torture, exile and even death of many trade union leaders.

"Our information is that the Nazi punishment extends even to the torture of relatives of exiles and refugees, wherever such relatives can be found in Germany.

"Many notable refugees from the Nazi terror are held in silence by the threat of the torture of families left behind in Germany. Many of the former leading figures in the German labor movement are thus forced to continue in silence, as a means of protecting their loved ones from torture of the most extreme nature. That those labor leaders who remain in Germany must yield to Nazi iron discipline goes without saying.

"The whole business is mediaeval, revolting and sickening and to think that a German freedom won out of the horrible sacrifice of war should be thus so ruthlessly destroyed in a reversion to a rule even more brutal and barbarous than the pre-war dictatorship breeds a resentment within us that I feel sure the delegates to our convention will express without reserve.

Labor Movement Destroyed

"German trade union executives have disappeared and no one knows where they are. Their great movement, built up by generations of devotion and work, has been virtually destroyed and the rights of collective bargaining and other rights enjoyed by trade unions in every civilized nation have been trampled under foot by men who act like barbarians.

"There is not the shadow of a doubt that the Nazis have been guilty of cruel and uncivilized terrorism against all who do not agree with them. Unbiased evidence of the Hitler dictatorship's tyranny, supplied by disinterested observers and investigators, is plentiful, but if that was not sufficient, we have evidence in American Federation of Labor headquarters of the terrible conditions that obtain in Germany. This evidence has been supplied by German trade unionists, men and women in whom we have every confidence.

"I said at the New York protest meeting that 'when any nation violates the laws of humanity, shocks international conscience, engages in persecution of minorities and follows a primitive, barbarian course toward helpless men and women who have committed no crime—then the voice of the American Federation of Labor will be heard in solemn protest.'

Boycott Against Hitler's Tyranny

"American labor is becoming convinced that something more than protest is needed in dealing with the Nazis. We are being forced to the conclusion that a boycott is the only thing that will bring home to the German tyrants the abhorrence in which their rule is held by the rest of the world.

"The boycott, if it comes, will not be against the German people. I am convinced that many millions of them hate the Nazi dictatorship as much as do freedom-loving people in other countries. In the words of the British labor movement in calling for a boycott, it will be a 'human protest against the betrayal and denial' by the German government of the 'principle of civilized behavior.'

"When the German masses realize the true state of world opinion, they will act, I am confident, to tear the grip of Nazi dictatorship from their throats. And a boycott in which American labor joins will be one step in making them see how civilization regards their brutal rulers.

American Labor Devoted to Freedom

"The delegates to the convention will have, as always, the complete right of free expression and while I cannot forecast their final action, I think I know the temper of American labor and their passionate devotion to the ideals of human freedom. Throughout our history our movement has sought to assist oppressed peoples elsewhere and our desire to help has not diminished. On the contrary, I think it is stronger today than ever, because of our own American revival of idealism. There will need be no surprise, in Germany or elsewhere, if American labor turns to the boycott as a weapon in the age-old cause of liberty."

STANDARD WAGES FIXED BY CARTELS IN EUROPE

New York.—One of the beneficences of the European cartels, according to a statement by W. J. L. Banham, chairman, and Dr. B. Birnbaum, cartel expert of the New York Board of Trade, who have recently made a study of the system abroad, is that they have enabled the employers to move wages of their workers up or down readily to conform to changes in the cost of living.

"The members of the cartel," the statement said, "knowing that the same level of wages would be binding upon all affiliated enterprises felt much less reluctant to arrive at an agreement with organized labor than is the case in countries where the principle of unlimited and unrestricted competition is strictly enforced. As a result it has been possible in Europe to fix wages on a uniform basis for an entire industry, and, furthermore, the wage level is adjusted much more easily to changes in the standard of living and prices. These adjustments are brought about with a minimum of friction and in a comparatively short time."

Their study further shows that the cartels are able to hold to a relatively small ratio the unused capacity of their respective industries, regulating output for the long run, instead of speeding up to meet temporary demand and bringing on overproduction.

Landlords Want 60-Hour Week For Apartment House Employes

Cleveland.—Residents of apartment houses, who all through the depression have been trying to induce the landlords to cut rents at least in fractional proportion to common pay reductions, will be interested to learn that the National Association of Apartment Owners and Managers was told in convention here that it would be "suicidal" for them to accept the President's "Blue Eagle" agreement without reservations.

Particularly, they feel that they must work their employes at least 60 hours a week, and their committee turned down the so-called Summerhays code which called for a 54-hour week. The convention was urged to combine with the National Building Owners and Managers Association to obtain "fair" treatment from the National Recovery Administration.

COMMUNITY CHESTS ASK $73,000,000 FOR 1934

Millions of Destitute Unemployed Make Huge Fund Necessary to Supplement Hundreds of Millions Appropriated for Public Relief Work.

Washington. — Facing the Winter with millions of destitute jobless workers and their families menaced with suffering throughout the United States, a total of $72,000,000, equal to the 1929 Community Chest budget, was agreed on as the required sum for 1934 at the final session here of the Conference on Human Needs.

Restoration of hospital, child welfare, character building and other social services, curtailed in recent years to meet relief demands which now have been assumed by the Federal and State Governments, are the main features of the 1934 budget policy.

In suggesting that the 1929 budget be considered as an adequate and also the minimum standard for the coming year, Arch Mandel, executive secretary of the Dayton, Ohio, Community Chest, stated that in spite of the fact that 95 per cent of the relief load had been taken over by the Government, community welfare would require more funds in 1934 than in the present year.

Hospitals on "Last Legs"

"Hospitals are now on their last legs, with free care increasing," he continued. "Children's agencies are forced to carry a greater financial burden because of the increased number of children in their care. Character-building work and leisure-time activities, because of the shortened working day and the large number of people still unemployed, have become even more necessary than in prosperous years."

Allen T. Burns, executive director of Community Chests and Councils, told the delegates that, while hospitals and charitable or social welfare organizations were not obliged to sign President Roosevelt's re-employment agreement, he hoped that all institutions able to do so would live up to the rules laid down by the National Recovery Administration.